

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 4 and 11, amend Claims 1, 2, 9 and 10, and add new Claim 12 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:
an original placement portion on which an original is to be placed;
an optical unit configured to move relative to the original placement portion; and
a guide member that guides movement of the optical unit;
wherein said optical unit includes a unit frame configured to hold an optical element, and includes a sliding member ~~having a screw portion that slides in~~ contacts with the guide member,
said sliding member has a screw portion and a sliding portion that slides in contact with the guide member,
said unit frame is formed and with a screw hole portion to in which the said screw portion of said sliding member is mounted,
a position of the unit frame relative to the guide member is adjusted by the rotating the sliding member, and
the screw portion of the sliding member being plastically deformable and screwed into the screw hole ~~portion~~ while being plastically deformed.
2. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein play between the screw portion and the screw hole ~~portion~~ is substantially eliminated by plastic deformation of said screw portion.

3. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said screw portion is provided with a plurality of plastically deformable portions that are arranged circumferentially.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said sliding member has an engagement portion to which a rotating tool is to engage.

6. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said screw portion is made of a resin material.

7. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a sliding portion and the screw portion of said sliding member are an integrally molded resin part.

8. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein a plurality of said sliding members are provided at respective end portions of said optical unit with respect to a direction orthogonal to a moving direction of the optical member respectively.

9. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said plastically deformable screw portion is provided over such a length that enables adjustment of a position of the optical unit by adjusting an engagement position of the screw portion and the screw hole portion.

10. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising an illuminating unit configured to illuminate the original on the original placement portion,

wherein the optical ~~element unit~~ unit ~~has~~ is a mirror configured to reflect a reflection light from the original that is illuminated with the illuminating unit.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said screw portion is provided on a circumference surface of said sliding member, and said sliding portion is provided on a tip end of said sliding member.